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THE TERMINATOR
TERMINATOR SPECIAL
$2.95 US
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ALAN GRANT
GUY DAVIS

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art by **Guy Davis**

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THE TERMINATOR™

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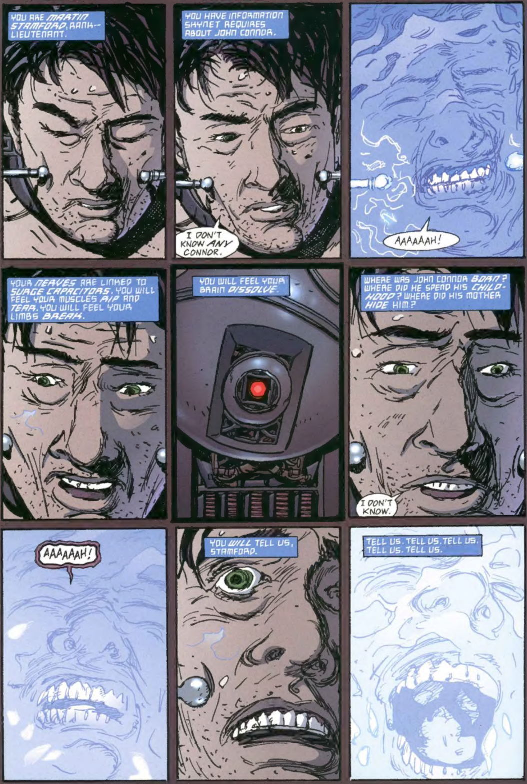
SOMEWHERE, THE YEAR IS 2029.
HUMAN BEINGS ARE OBSOLETE, FLESH AND BONE OUTDATED BY TUNGSTEN STEEL AND TITANIUM.
THE WORLD BELONGS TO METAL. CONTROLLED BY THE VAST SKYNET SYSTEM, DEATH-MACHINES PROWL THE RAVAGED CITY.
THE SMELLS OF OLD BLOOD AND HOT OIL LINGER IN THE AIR.
BUT NOT ALL HUMANS HAVE ROLLED OVER AND DIED. THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD FIGHT TO RECLAIM THE HERITAGE THAT ONCE BELONGED TO MANKIND--
IT'S COMING! HURRY--!
GO!
--A HERITAGE STOLEN IN THE FLASH OF EXPLOSIONS AND CHATTER OF BULLETS.

THE BATTLE SO FAR HAS BEEN ONE-SIDED. MUSCLE AND SOFT TISSUE HAVE LOST OUT ON A PLANETARY SCALE TO PLASTIC AND STEEL.
FOR FREEDOM!
CHOOF CHOOF
CHOOF
CHOOM
CHOOM
THE RULE OF THE METAL DEVILS IS ALMOST COMPLETE. BILLIONS HAVE DIED.
COMM TOWER NEGATED!
BUT STILL, SOME FIGHT BACK-- INSPIRED BY A LEADER, CONNOR, AND HIS DREAMS OF A TIME LONG GONE.
MOBILITY NEGATED!
IN AND OUT FAST! GRAB ALL THE WEAPONS AND AMMO THAT YOU CAN!

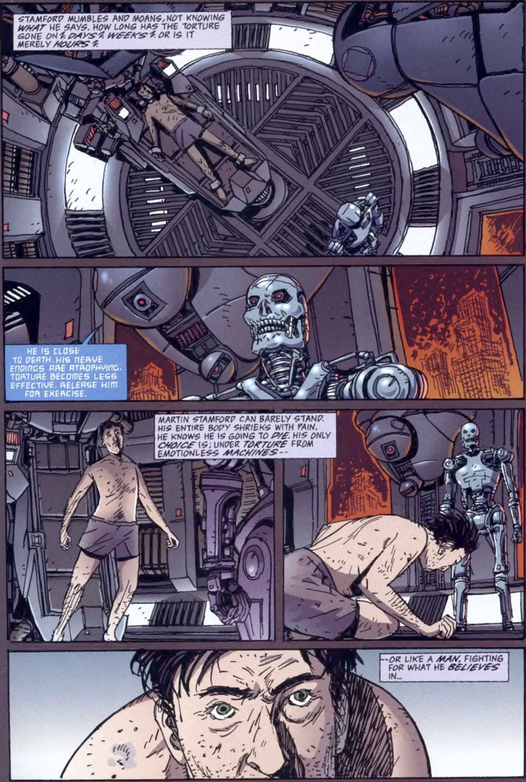
BUT MACHINE LOGIC HAS ALSO DISCOVERED THE BENEFITS OF DECEIT--
TERMINATOR! IT'S A TRAP!
AAH!
BLAMM!
BLAMM!
CAN'T GET A CLEAR SHOT--!
CHOOF CHOOF
AGH!
UNHH!
TWO ENEMIES DESTROYED. CAPTIVE TAKEN.
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.

SOMEWHERE ELSE, THE YEAR IS 1998. THE GAME IS THE SAME: LIFE--
--OR DEATH--
HOLD IT!
I'd been waiting for him since my stake-out of the shop in Furnace Creek. Of course, I didn't expect him to stop--
WAFF!
But I'd been on the trail of his Satan-worshipping geek friends for almost a month and I wasn't going to let it go cold now--
GUESS SATAN DIDN'T HEAR YOUR PRAYERS THIS TIME, CHUMP! ON YOUR FEET! YOU'RE GONNA TAKE ME TO YOUR HIDEOUT!
N-NO!

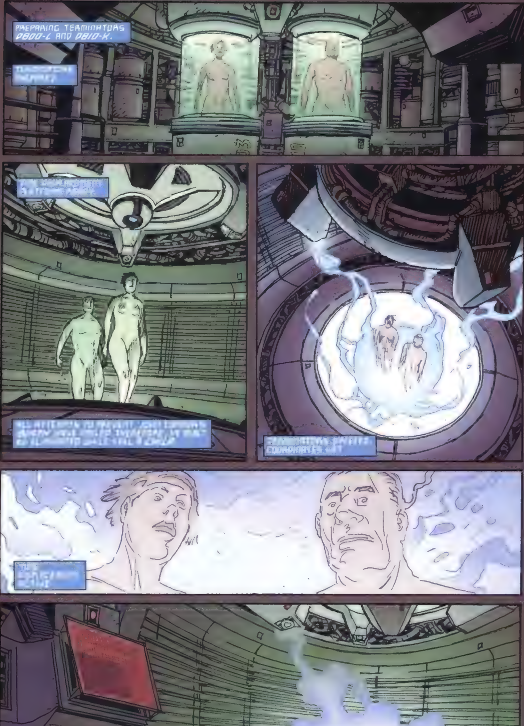
YOU'RE A BRAVE GUY. TOUGH, RIGHT?
TOUGH ENOUGH TO WALK ON 100 DEGREE SAND? SURE YOU ARE!
WALK!
AAH!
AAAH!
Rock-hard salt crystals did a job on him. I remembered reading someplace that the Devil doesn't like salt. Couldn't remember why, though.
Whatever-- sometimes, a little pain is the only way to get what you want.
OKAY! J-JUST GIMME BACK MY BOOTS, MAN!
Nobody knows that better than me.



YOU ARE MARTIN STAMFORD, RANK--LIEUTENANT.
YOU HAVE INFORMATION SKYNET REQUIRES ABOUT JOHN CONNOR.
I DON'T KNOW ANY CONNOR.
AAAAAAH!
YOUR NERVES ARE LINKED TO SURGE CAPACITORS. YOU WILL FEEL YOUR MUSCLES RIP AND TEAR. YOU WILL FEEL YOUR LIMBS BREAK.
YOU WILL FEEL YOUR BRAIN DISSOLVE.
WHERE WAS JOHN CONNOR BORN? WHERE DID HE SPEND HIS CHILDHOOD? WHERE DID HIS MOTHER HIDE HIM?
I DON'T KNOW.
AAAAAAH!
YOU WILL TELL US, STAMFORD.
TELL US. TELL US. TELL US. TELL US. TELL US.


STAMFORD MUMBLES AND MOANS, NOT KNOWING WHAT HE SAYS. HOW LONG HAS THE TORTURE GONE ON? DAYS? WEEKS? OR IS IT MERELY HOURS?
HE IS CLOSE TO DEATH. HIS NERVE ENDINGS ARE ATROPHYING. TORTURE BECOMES LESS EFFECTIVE. RELEASE HIM FOR EXERCISE.
MARTIN STAMFORD CAN BARELY STAND. HIS ENTIRE BODY SHRIEKS WITH PAIN. HE KNOWS HE IS GOING TO DIE. HIS ONLY CHOICE IS; UNDER TORTURE FROM EMOTIONLESS MACHINES--
--OR LIKE A MAN, FIGHTING FOR WHAT HE BELIEVES IN...

STOP HIM!
KRUMMP!
STOP HIM!
SKAAASH
INTERESTING. HE CHOSE TO DESTROY HIMSELF RATHER THAN REVEAL MORE.
HE REVEALED ENOUGH. "INTENSE HEAT...DEATH... A VALLEY." CALCULATING...


PREPARING TERMINATORS
D800-L AND D810-K.

THE DEVIL..!
XV
THE DEVIL.
EVIL COMES THIS WAY. THERE WILL BE THE END OF SOMETHING. AND THE START OF SOMETHING.
SOMEONE WILL BE HURT.
KILLERMAN! DONNY'S COME BACK..
..AND HE AIN'T ALONE!
Killerman's gang called themselves Satan-worshippers--good cover, I guess, for the string of vicious robberies they'd committed in Nevada. Then they disappeared. Nobody knew where they'd gone--
YOU BETTER GO FIRST FROM HERE ON, TOUGH GUY. MOVE!
THE GUY WUZ DRAGGIN HIM ON A ROPE!
GOTTA BE THE LAW!
-Till Senator Evert hired me to get his daughter out of their clutches. For two grand a week I'd track God himself--not that God ever made it to the bleak desolation of CA's Death Valley--
LET ME KNOW WHAT KIND OF MOOD YOUR FRIENDS ARE IN!
BOOT!

D-DON'T SHOOT! IT'S ME--
AAH!
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
DONNY..!
RIGHT FRIENDLY BUNCH, EH?
DROP THE GUNS--OR YOU'LL BE APOLOGIZIN' TO DONNY IN HELL!
IF I STILL CARRIED A BADGE, I'D BE TAKING YOU IN FOR MURDER. BUT YOU'RE LUCKY--
YOU CAN HAND OVER THE GIRL, AND I'LL BE ON MY WAY.
YOU GOT IT WRONG, MAN. AIN'T NO GIRL HERE.
PROVE IT!

SOMEWHERE CLOSE, THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE HAVE BEEN ALIGNED--
D-BOOL? REPORT LOCATION.
SILENCE.
MALFUNCTION?
THE SILENCE OF THE DESERT.
POSSIBLE ERROR IN TIME DISPLACEMENT. THIS UNIT WILL PROCEED ALONE.
D-BIOX?
YOU WERE DELAYED. REASON?
UNKNOWN. NO RELEVANT DATA. POSSIBLE ERROR IN TIME DISPLACEMENT.

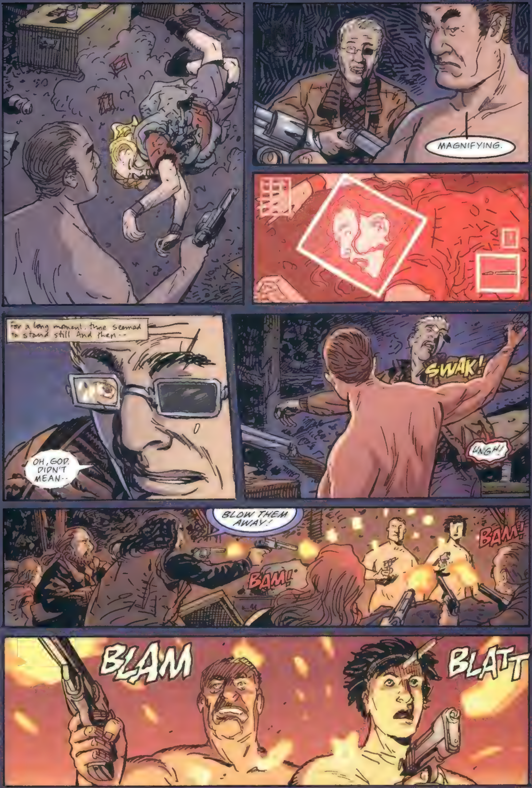
INFRARED REVEALS PRESENCE OF SEVERAL HUMANS. DISTANCE: 1 MILE. DATA SOURCE. CLOTHING SOURCE.
POSSIBLE WEAPON SOURCE.

COZY SET-UP YOU HAVE, GUYS! HOW'D YOU SPEND YOUR TIME-- WORSHIP THE DEVIL ALL DAY, AND SACRIFICE EACH OTHER AT NIGHT!
YOU CAN MOCK--BUT THE DEVIL IS REAL. HE LOOKS AFTER HIS OWN!
GUESS HE TOOK TODAY OFF, HUH?
I recognized Cindy from the photos the Senator had given me--
CINDY EVERT?
YOUR DAD DOESN'T LIKE THE IDEA OF YOUR RUNNING AWAY TO JOIN THIS GANG OF HALF-WITS!
I'M HERE TO TAKE YOU HOME.
N-NO! MY HOME IS HERE!
DON'T MAKE IT HARD ON ME, CINDY! I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYBODY GET HURT! LET'S GO!
YOU'LL BE IN L.A. BY NIGHTFALL, AND THESE GEEKS'LL JUST BE A BAD MEMORY!

Cindy was just an ordinary girl swept up in something that seemed glamorous and exciting but in reality was cheap and tawdry.
I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!
CAST THE TAROT, CINDY!
I obeyed. The longer I was in there, the more chance there was of something going wrong--
LET SATAN HIMSELF DIRECT YOU!
THE TOWER OF DESTRUCTION!
IT MEANS DANGER AND DEATH!
And it was getting weirder by the minute.
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
And weirdest of all, they didn't even tell me to drop my weapon. Almost as if they didn't care whether I had it or not.
WE SEEK A WOMAN, SARAH CONNOR.
AND HER SON, JOHN. DO YOU KNOW THEM?
DO YOU KNOW CONNOR?
GET FU-

TERMINATED
DO YOU KNOW CONNOR?
I...I...
I guess it was the remnant of the cop in me, but I couldn't stand by and watch cold-blooded murder. Not even a gang of brain dead Satanists.
YEAH.. I KNOW THE CONNORS!
BUT YOU'LL NEVER FIND THEM!
Give him his due - killerman got there first.
I couldn't believe it. Nobody could take that and live. But she didn't even seem to notice. If I'd known how, I would have prayed.
TELL US ABOUT CONNOR--OR DIE.

As the woman fired, the gang-leader was already diving for the guns--
BLAM
ARM UP, PEOPLE!
I had a clear shot at her. My finger was already squeezing the trigger--
when Cindy Evert decided to jump to her feet--
OHH!
BOOM

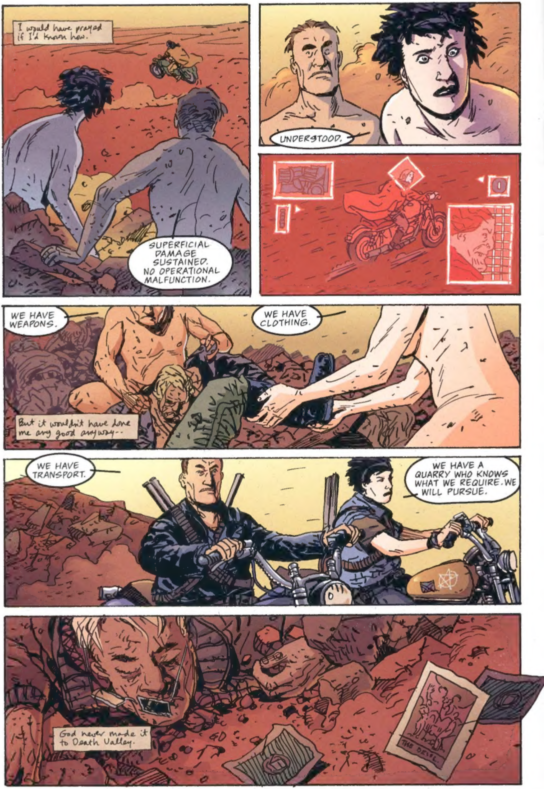

MAGNIFYING.
For a long moment, time seemed to stand still And then--
OH, GOD. DIDN'T MEAN--
SWAK!
UNGH!
BLOW THEM AWAY!
BAM!
BAM!
BLAM
BLATT

DATA SOURCE ESCAPING.
THIS UNIT WILL PURSUE.
BLAM
BLAM

EVADE
BAWOOMFF

DAMN! DAMN! DAMN!
FREDERIC AUSTEN WAS FIFTEEN YEARS OLD WHEN HE KNIFED HIS FIRST VICTIM AND CHRISTENED HIMSELF KILLERMAN. HE'S SEEN A LOT OF DEATH IN THE TEN YEARS SINCE--
DAMN!
BUT NOTHING LIKE THIS.
DAMN! DAMN! DAMN!

DAMN! DAMN! DAMN!
FREDERIC AUSTEN WAS FIFTEEN YEARS OLD WHEN HE KNIFED HIS FIRST VICTIM AND CHRISTENED HIMSELF KILLERMAN. HE'S SEEN A LOT OF DEATH IN THE TEN YEARS SINCE--
DAMN!
BUT NOTHING LIKE THIS.
DAMN! DAMN! DAMN!

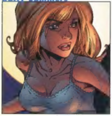

I would have prayed if I'd known how.
SUPERFICIAL DAMAGE SUSTAINED. NO OPERATIONAL MALFUNCTION.
UNDERSTOOD.
WE HAVE WEAPONS.
WE HAVE CLOTHING.
But it wouldn't have done me any good anyway--
WE HAVE TRANSPORT.
WE HAVE A QUARRY WHO KNOWS WHAT WE REQUIRE. WE WILL PURSUE.
God never made it to Death Valley.
THE DEVIL

finish line

It's a Man's World . . .

…but thank God for women, 'cuz it wouldn't be much of a world without them. Girls, gals, babes, broads, dames, chicks, dolls, ladies… women. No matter what their size, shape, or color they give life and give men a reason to keep on living. In celebration of these wonderful beings, I'd like to introduce you to five very special women who will soon be a part of your lives.

Buffy Summers

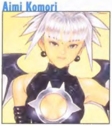


This high school heartbreaker loves dancing and hanging out with her friends at The Bronze — when she's not busy slaying vampires or saving the world from power-hungry demons. You've seen her in her hit television series on the WB, and now Buffy the Vampire Slayer will have her own comic book. The *DHP Annual* 1998 kicks off the action with a story by J.L. Van Meter, Luke Ross, and Rick Ketcham. Then, in September, Buffy's monthly adventures begin with *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* #1, by Andi Watson, Joe Bennett, and Ketcham. Look for covers by Arthur Adams, J. Scott Campbell, Chris Pachello, and Randy Green, as well as variant photo-covers on the newsstand editions. But that's not all! Shipping that same month is a *Buffy* graphic novel by Dan Brereton and Hector Gomez in which Buffy is lured into a "Dust Waltz" (a battle to the death) with a powerful vampire. If you want to get close to this girl, be prepared for late nights and bring your own stakes.

Elisa Cameron

As Arcadia's self-proclaimed protector, this beauty also walks the supernatural side of the street, searching for the answer to life's basic question: "Who killed me?" *Ghost* #1 brings Elisa back from her brief hiatus with new adventures by the new creative team of Chris Warner, Christian Zanier, and Steve Moncuse. Ryan Benjamin provides the covers. Also in stores in September is Dark Horse's Ghost action figure. In addition to the knock-out standard-issue figure, there are also two variant figures; Chrome Ghost and Glow-in-the-dark Ghost. Every figure comes packaged with an exclusive *Ghost* comic book by Lee Swank and Scott Benefiel, with a cover by Adam Hughes. If Elisa is the kind of woman that appeals to you, keep in mind you can look, but you (literally) can't touch.

Aimi Komori



A beguiling combination of ultra-shy and super-sexy, this little lady's powers and costumes are as varied as the colors of her eye shadow. *Masakazu Katsura's Shadow Lady* begins playing cat-and-mouse with the forces of both good and evil in September. If you want to hang with Aimi, learn to expect the unexpected and, for cryin' out loud, help this girl keep her clothes on!

Mara Jade

If you're looking for a woman who can take care of herself, Mara may fit the bill. In addition to being Force sensitive, she's also an accomplished spy and the Emperor Palpatine's personal assassin. You can meet her in August in *Star Wars: Mara Jade — By the Emperor's Hand* by Michael A. Stackpole, Timothy Zahn, and Carlos Ezquerra. Kilian Plunkett provides the covers. Be forewarned, if you want to date this babe, the Force had better be with you.

D-810X

You say you go for the strong, silent type? D-810X combines beauty and brawn in one machine-perfect package. She arrives in our time period in August in *The Terminator Special* by Alan Grant and Frank Teran and continues her adventures in *The Terminator* #1, on sale the very next month, by Grant and Steve Pugh. Before you make a fool of yourself over D-810X, I should tell you that she doesn't date outside her model number and that she's dedicated to the destruction of all humans.

That's it — five beautiful women and five more wonderful reasons for men everywhere to go on living.

Worshipping beauty,
Randy Stradley

august checklist

On Sale August 5

- ❍ Dark Horse Classics: Godzilla, King of the Monsters #2
- ❍ Flaming Carrot shot glass
- ❍ Flaming Carrot Zippo® lighter #2
- ❍ Hellboy: The Chained Coffin and Others (tbp)
- ❍ Kelley Jones' The Hammer: Uncle Alex (one-shot)
- ❍ Oh My Goddess!: Play the Game (one-shot)
- ❍ Red Rocket 7 (tpb)
- ❍ Scatterbrain #3
- ❍ Sin City Dames print "Wendy"
- ❍ Star Wars: Dark Forces — Soldier for the Empire (tpb)
- ❍ Star Wars: Mara Jade #1
- ❍ Star Wars: X-Wing Rogue Squadron #32

On Sale August 12

- ❍ Dark Horse Extra #3
- ❍ Dark Horse Presents Annual 1998
- ❍ Gunsmith Cats: Bad Trip #3
- ❍ Hellboy limited-edition lithograph
- ❍ Mask: Toys in the Attic #1
- ❍ Star Wars: A New Hope — Manga #2
- ❍ Terminator special (one-shot)
- ❍ Usagi Yojimbo: Brink of Life and Death (tpb)

On Sale August 19

- ❍ Decapitator #3
- ❍ Dark Horse Classics: Terror of Godzilla #1
- ❍ Lost in Space (tbp)
- ❍ Madman/The Jam #2
- ❍ Starship Troopers: Dominant Species #1
- ❍ The Two Faces of Tomorrow #1

On Sale August 26

- ❍ Aliens vs. Predator: Eternal #3
- ❍ Blade of the Immortal #24
- ❍ Curse of Dracula #2
- ❍ Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan/Carson of Venus #4
- ❍ Sergio Aragonés' Boogeyman #3
- ❍ Star Wars: Tales of the Jedi — Redemption #2
- ❍ 300 #4
- ❍ Usagi Yojimbo: Brink of Life and Death (limited-edition hard cover)
- ❍ Zombieworld: Winter's Dregs #4

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